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Little Rice: Smartphones, Xiaomi, and the Chinese Dream

by Clay Shirky

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7 Highlights

Highlight (Yellow) | Location 58

there are only three universally personal items that someone will carry with them no matter where they live. The first two are money and keys; the third is the mobile phone, making it the first new invention added to that short list in three thousand years.

Highlight (Yellow) | Location 349

In a number of fields, including cooking, mountain climbing, and industrial robotics, the most intensive users, like the fever fans, often understand the product as well or better than the designers, and the modifications and adaptations made by those users are often good candidates for incorporation into the standard product itself.

Highlight (Yellow) | Location 352

most of the smart people work for someone else.”

Highlight (Yellow) | Location 411

if a complex product is going to be made to look simple, the simplicity has to be concentrated on the part of the device the user uses. This meeting point—the interface—becomes the essential design challenge.

Highlight (Yellow) | Location 413

the interface is the product.

Highlight (Yellow) | Location 668

Someone with a flip phone is either poor or else rich and ostentatiously low tech.

Highlight (Yellow) | Location 756

The first generation that grew up with digital affordances as a birthright now expects its physical objects to exhibit the same properties.
